

Truck and Bus Regulation

PM Filter Availability and Extensions

Last Updated November 26, 2012



This summary describes how to determine what particulate matter (PM) filters are verified for your engine and how to apply for an extension if none are compatible with your engine. The regulation does not apply to state and local government vehicles, most solid waste collection trucks, drayage trucks that transport marine cargo, and public transit buses because they are already subject to other regulations.

How do I determine what PM filters are verified for my engine?

The executive order for each PM filter lists the engine families it has been verified to work with and the conditions for proper operation. You can view the executive order for each PM filter that is verified at www.arb.ca.gov/diesel/verdev/vt/cvt.htm. If your engine family is listed, then the PM filter may be appropriate for your engine. You should work with an authorized installer to determine the best PM filter for your fleet. You should also read the executive order for the PM filter to determine the proper operating requirements. More information on how to select and maintain a PM filter, short educational videos, and a list of installers is available at www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/decsinstall/decsinstall.htm.

What type of PM filter do I need to install?

You must use Level 3 PM filters that the Air Resources Board (ARB) has verified to reduce PM by 85 percent. If no such filter is available, then any Level 2 PM filter that the ARB has verified to reduce PM by 50 percent can be used. If none are available or are not compatible with the engine, then the fleet owner can apply for an extension. Level 1 PM filters cannot be used to comply.

Can I get an extension if there is no verified PM filter that will work on my engine?

You may qualify for an annual extension from the PM filter requirements if you can demonstrate that the PM filters that are verified for your engine 10 months before the next compliance date are not suitable. You must demonstrate that your fleet is in compliance with the regulation, and that all verified PM filters that are available for your properly operating engine are not compatible, do not fit, or cannot be installed safely. You can apply for an extension four months before the next compliance date by using the worksheet on the next page. Any engine that cannot be retrofitted by January 1, 2018, will need to be replaced.

Is a vehicle with a PM filter extension treated the same as one that has a PM filter?

No, a vehicle with a PM filter extension is excused from meeting the PM filter requirement, but is otherwise treated like any other vehicle in the fleet that does not have a PM filter. This means the vehicle is still counted in determining the fleet size and what portion of the fleet is equipped with PM filters.

What information must I provide to show the verified PM filter cannot be installed safely?

A PM filter installation should not be done if it conflicts with existing safety requirements or standards. The PM filter manufacturer or authorized installer should assess multiple installation locations or configurations before deciding whether a PM filter can be installed safely on a vehicle. If a PM filter installation would conflict with occupational safety and health requirements, federal highway safety regulations, or with an existing local air district permit conditions, provide an explanation of the conflict with supporting documentation. Documentation can include published reports and other findings of federal, state, or local governments, independent testing laboratories, engine manufacturers, or other reliable sources.

Where can I find more information about the regulation?

Fact sheets, compliance tools and regulatory documents are available at www.arb.ca.gov/dieseltruck or by calling ARB's diesel hotline at (866) 6DIESEL (634-3735).

While this document is intended to assist fleets with their compliance efforts, it is the sole responsibility of fleets to ensure compliance with the Truck and Bus Regulation.

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PM Filter Extension Request Worksheet

How do I apply for an extension from the PM filter requirements?

Provide the information described below for each vehicle that cannot be retrofitted and mail your application to PM Filter Extension Requests, P.O. Box 2815, 5th Floor, Sacramento, CA, 95812. You can use the worksheet below for your convenience.

1. Your contact information and the TRUCRS ID that identifies your fleet. The TRUCRS ID is issued when you report at www.arb.ca.gov/msprog/onrdiesel/reportinginfo.htm to demonstrate compliance for your California fleet of heavier vehicles (GVWR greater than 26,000 lbs.)
2. Provide details about the vehicle and engine that cannot be equipped with a verified PM filter.
3. List all PM filters that were verified for the engine as of March 1.
4. Attach documentation from an authorized installer that explains why each verified PM filter is not compatible with your vehicle or engine.

Your Name	Phone Number	TRUCRS ID
Vehicle Identification Number (VIN)	Vehicle manufacturer	Vehicle body type
Engine family number	Engine manufacturer	Engine model year

List all PM filters that are verified for your engine, identify the authorized installer that evaluated your vehicle, and attach documentation supporting why each PM filter cannot be installed on the vehicle.

Verified PM Filter Family Name (CA/MAN/0000/PM3+/N00/DESC#)	Authorized Installer Name	Date of Attached Letter or Document